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Dear Parent / Carer

If you are new to us, welcome to the Levenshulme High School community – if you already have a daughter here then thank you for choosing to stay with us. We are looking forward to developing our partnership with you as we work together to support our young people. Schools across the country have been working very hard to adapt to the demands of the new GCSEs. As always, our school community has risen to the challenge and the commitment and motivation of staff and students has shown in the positive and ambitious way that everyone has worked together to make sure that our students' personal and academic progress continues to be excellent from Year 7 onwards. I have enclosed a copy of the summer edition of our 'Levenshulme Life' magazine to share with you – containing wonderful photos and reports of some of the enrichment, careers and leadership experiences taking place in recent months. Following the school on Twitter (@Levenshulmehigh) is another excellent way to keep up-to-date continually with events in school.

School has been proud to host a number of events for community and educational groups, and it has provided excellent opportunities for our students to meet inspirational visitors from many walks of life. For example, we hosted the Greater Manchester BAME Women's Network celebration of strong women from different communities for International Women's Day and recently held our 3rd national Digital Urdu conference for teachers of Urdu across the country. We have also hosted sporting activities for other primary schools and provide the venue for the secondary schools' rowing championship – our Student Sports Leaders do a magnificent job to support running these events. On Friday 6th July we held our second Great Levy Get-Together, our school community picnic inspired by the late Jo Cox MP, and we were delighted to be joined this year by Afzal Khan MP and Diane Abbott MP. We are the first school in Greater Manchester to have become part of Citizens UK, an organisation that enables local communities/individuals to work together to influence local and national government policy. We believe that this will be a really important next stage in developing our students' belief in their ability to make a difference in and beyond their communities as well as providing them with the skills and knowledge to do so.

The summer term is always an incredibly busy one – with celebrations, sports day, Year 6 days and parent evening, rewards trips (almost 400 students went to Alton Towers this term!), competitions, performances, GCSEs, Progress Evenings, Sports Awards evening, our Inclusion Awards event, Year 10 'Stepping into the Future', STEM trips and lots more. All of this goes on while the serious business of learning and making progress still also continues very strongly.

At this point, it is timely to give some practical information and reminders. The vast majority of our students look very smart every day – however we notice that there seems to be some confusion about what is acceptable as trousers. Students should not be wearing leggings/jeggings or denim trousers (i.e. jeans) to school – regardless of what shops may label them as or how they may display them in a school uniform section. Trousers should also be full length, not skimming the ankles. Footwear should be plain black shoes or trainers – if boots are worn they must be tucked underneath trouser legs so as to look like shoes. We now have two uniform suppliers, MCS Stores and Stockport School and Sportswear (Triple S) – flyers enclosed.

Girls should also not be wearing earrings or facial piercings and make-up is not allowed. We hope that students wear their uniform with pride, as part of belonging to school but also because taking pride in your appearance is an important of preparing for a career.

This letter is accompanied by a set of other communications – please take time to read through them all as they contain important information about the start of next term and attendance. We value highly what our students have to say and take time to listen to their views regularly on matters affecting school life – then try to act on their ideas. Accompanying this letter is a sheet that shows some examples of student feedback and what has happened in response. We are also giving your daughters some information on activities taking place over the summer and sources of information and support that are available to them. **School starts for students on Tuesday 4th September** – specific details for each year group are on a separate sheet with this letter. **Year 7** will also be having a **teambuilding day on Wednesday 5th September**, and so will need to come to school in PE kit on that day. Remember to make sure that your ParentPay accounts have money in them for the start of term ready to buy school lunches without any problems on the first day.

You will be aware that the use and disposal of plastics is a growing environmental concern across the planet and we need to do more to reduce the amount of plastic waste created. Our outgoing school council have left the legacy of being committed to this aim and so – in September – we will stop selling bottled water in school. Instead, we will issue all students with their own reusable bottle to keep and are installing additional water fountains around school for students to access in social times. Each girl should fill her bottle with water before coming to school in the morning. Please support us in this by reminding your daughter to fill her water bottle before coming to school.

Finally, you may have noticed that Manchester City Council have been putting more bollards into place along Errwood Road where there are double yellow lines. There is, rightly, a renewed focus on road safety around schools across the city as our roads get busier and a number of new initiatives have been introduced – the safety of our children is a top priority. To support with this, please take every care when dropping off or picking up students. It would be great if you could park further away or even encourage your daughters to walk to school if you live reasonably close. This will have the double benefit of providing them with more exercise as well as contributing to road safety.

This has been a fantastic year for the school and our students, we are very proud of all of the girls' achievements and development, and I wish you and your family a relaxing, safe and happy summer.

Yours sincerely



Dr Johan MacKinnon, PhD
Academy Headteacher



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